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**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**

Twenty-second session
Geneva, 7 – 9 December 2011

Draft report

V. Implementation of the GHS (agenda item 4)

C. Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations

1. Work of the joint TDG-GHS working group on corrosivity criteria and related issues

Informal documents: INF.12 and INF.13 (ICCA)
INF.17 (ICPP)
INF.18 and 18/Add.1 (United Kingdom)
INF.27 (Secretariat)
INF.28 and INF.28/Rev.1 (United Kingdom)

24. The Sub-Committee noted the outcome of the first meeting of the joint TDG-GHS working group on corrosivity criteria, which was initially circulated as INF.28, after amending it to take into account the comments made on paragraph 2 (b) regarding the replacement of the term “transport classification” with “transport conditions”. The amended text was circulated as INF.8/Rev.1.

25. Bearing in mind the successful outcome and excellent feedback received from experts from both Sub-Committees on the fruitful exchange of views on corrosivity issues during the first meeting of the joint working group, the Sub-Committee concurred with the TDG Sub-Committee on the need and convenience to schedule a half-day meeting of the joint working group during the next session of both sub-committees. Several experts

suggested that this could be done, from now on, on a regular basis and that the mandate of the joint working group could be extended to address any issue of common interest to both sub-committees. However, taking into account that current discussions on corrosivity would take most of the time allocated to the meetings of the joint working group, the Sub-Committee considered that this matter could be addressed again at a later stage depending on time availability. It was noted that in all probability the meeting would be scheduled during the second week of the transport meeting (2 or 3 July 2011) although this would still have to be confirmed. The secretariat was invited to communicate the exact date as soon as possible so that delegates from both sub-committees could make the necessary arrangements to attend the meeting.

2. Classification and hazard characterization of wastes

Informal document: INF.15 (Secretariat)

26. The Sub-Committee noted that due to the lack of progress on the work of the joint correspondence group between the Sub-Committee and the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) of the Basel Convention on hazard characterization of wastes, the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention was considering not including this item on the programme of work for the next biennium of work. It was also noted that the Conference of the Parties would take a final decision on this matter at its eleventh meeting.

3. Preparation for the first evaluation of progress with implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

Informal document: INF.21 (SAICM)

27. The Sub-Committee noted the information provided and welcomed any future updates on the progress report in implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management as regards the GHS.

4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Informal document: INF.27 (Secretariat)

28. The Chairman of the TDG Sub-Committee brought to the attention of the Sub-Committee the following issues considered by the TDG Sub-Committee at its 40th session:

- (a) Classification of plastics evolving flammable vapours;
- (b) Provisions for the classification of uranium hexafluoride;
- (c) Description of labels, placards, symbols, markings and marks;
- (d) Issues related to the classification of fireworks.

29. On (a), the Sub-Committee noted that there was on-going work on the development of provisions for a hazard assessment method for these substances on the basis of tests

which would be included in the Manual of Tests and Criteria. It was noted that these provisions could also be useful to other sectors other than transport.

30. On (b), the Sub-Committee noted that although under transport regulations, the primary hazard associated to this substance continued to be radioactivity (Class 7 in transport), TDG experts had not yet agreed on which of the subsidiary risks associated to this substance should be taken into account: corrosivity, oxidizing properties or toxicity (i.e.: Class 8, Division 5.1 or Division 6.1 in transport regulations). Experts from the Sub-Committee were invited to provide feedback to the International Atomic Energy Agency and to TDG Sub-Committee experts on how to best assess the health hazards of uranium hexafluoride as regards in particular its classification as toxic under Division 6.1.

31. On (c), the Sub-Committee was informed about the on-going work on the improvement of the description of transport labels, placards, symbols, markings and marks. It was noted that depending on the outcome of this work, it might be necessary to update the current reference to the minimum dimensions for transport labels in paragraph 1.4.10.4.2.2 of the GHS.

32. Finally on (d), the attention of the Sub-Committee was brought to a request for feedback from the expert from the United States to complete a survey on the implementation of the current default classification system for fireworks at regional and national level. Since the default classification system is also used by other sectors (e.g. storage), experts from the Sub-Committee were invited to participate in the survey and to register for an international videoconference addressing fireworks classification, approval and transport. Additional details on the survey as well as information on how to register for the conference was provided in Annex 3 to INF.27.
